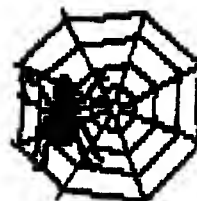


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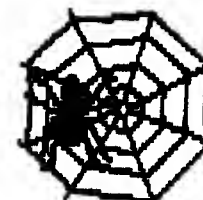
BORIS THE SPIDER
 c/o 203 Devon Ct
 FWB, FL 32547-3110
<http://hometown.aol.com/prbolduc/boris/borishome.htm>



VOLUME VIII, #12

BORIS THE SPIDER

A Journal of Duplicious Doings,
 Raw Power, and Naked Greed
 "Oh, what a tangled web we weave
 When first we practice to deceive!"
 --Sir Walter Scott--



9 Dec 04

(#232)

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Boris and Ms Nar wish you and yours Season's Greetings and a prosperous New Year, and plenty of good gaming.

We have a gamestart for PUERTO RICO this time. Check it out on p 12.

IMMEDIATE GAME OPENINGS:

1870: Have Zieske, Hanna, Frueh need 1 to 3 more.

BORIS'S BULLETIN BOARD

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH: "All serious daring starts from within." -- Eudoras Welty

Andy Lischett is looking for a few DIP players to fill out three DIP games in his 'zine *Cheesecake*. No game fees. See p 15 for some details.

The *'ZINE REGISTER* is still soliciting reviews of gaming zines, so if you want to give your opinion of this rag, send your review to Tim Snyder, 12001 Dessau Rd #825, Austin TX 78754 or tsnyder@optil.mccomb.utexas.edu soonest.

Details for the Chattanooga Railgame Challenge, 14-16 Jan 05 can be found at Reference 1 and on p 9.

It's also time to (re)join the Boardgame Players' Association in time to be able to vote for which 10 games will join the Century and, a first this year, the 25 games that will have trial status. My own tourney, WIZARD'S QUEST (WZQ), has been languishing in the trial ranks for several years now and is at some peril of missing the cut, so your vote for it would be appreciated. See Reference 2 for details on how to join and what membership gets you.

BOOS & KUDOS

The Madame Bolduc Press Excellence Award (and free issue) will not be awarded this month due to bad spelling. Quoth the Nar "Please use a spell-checker. Punctuation is another kettle of fish."

This month's Ms Nar Super-Sunday Bomb is lobbed at Mark Frueh for delay of zine.

REFERENCES:

- 1) <http://home.hightech.net/~derrick.gaming.htm>
- 2) <http://www.boardgamers.org>

PERSONAL COMMUNICATION HERE (maybe):

Deadline for most games is 1800 CST 7 Jan 05



Farewell to Britain! Fall 1986

XVII
2003F

MINAS MORGUL: Lord One-Eyed's last, desperate attempt at national survival was thwarted by Franco-German cooperation as the German army sacking EDI took time to support the French army blockaded in LPL. Meanwhile Austrian forces are poised for attack into STP, the eastern gateway to Scandanavia and Italy piles the pressure upon MAR.

TROOP MOVEMENTS

German A SIL retreats to BER.

AUS: (Rick Copeland) A War S A Mos-Lvn, A Gre H, F Aeg-Bul(ec), A Tri-Vie, A Mos-Lvn, A Ukr-Gal, A Sev-Mos, (A Sil-Mun), A Tri S A Sil-Mun, A Vie-Boh;

ENG: (Jack Shacklett) (F Iri-Lpl), F Cly S F Iri-Lpl;

FRA: (Kevin Wilson) (A Bur-Mar), (A Lpl S GER A Edi), F Wal-Eng, F Lon S F Wal-Eng, (A Pic-Bur), F Spa(ec) S F Mid-Wes, F Mid-Wes;

GER: (Rudy Zodda) A Lvn-Pru, A Edi S FRE A Lpl, F Bal S A Lvn-Pru, A Ber S A Mun, A Hol-Kie, F StP(nc) H, A Mun H, F Nth S A Edi;

ITA: (Ron Fisher) A Nap-Rom, (A Pie-Mar), F Ion-Tyn, F Ank-Con, F Wes-Lyo, F Tyn-Tun, F Rom-Tus.

Orders in brackets fail; d= destroyed, oth = off the board, nao = not so ordered, r-??? = must retreat somewhere. Full transcript of game and the latest Map are on the Website.

SUPPLY CENTERS:

AUS: Bud Tri Vie Gre Ser Bul War Mos Rum Sev

ENG: -Edi -Lon

FRA: Bre Mar Par Bel Por Spa Lpl +Lon

GER: Ber Kie Mun Den Hol Swe Nwy StP +Edi

ITA: Nap Rom Ven Con Smy Ank Tun

(10) Even

(0) Tear 2 = OUT

(8) Build 1

(9) Build 1 *

(7) Even

*But all home centers are occupied, so will play one short.

Orders for the builds and for Spring 1907 are due next time.

EMBASSY BEAT

H.R.E. to ALL - The Emperor cordially invites all heads of state to the annual Imperial New Year's Ball in Vienna, the Crown Jewel of Europe. The border "incident" with our cousin in Germany has been resolved and forgotten, so the entire continent should be at peace. Please join the Imperial family for a celebration that will be remembered for decades.

BORIS WORLD PRESS REVIEW

Athens Herald: A Turkish spy nearly scuttled the Italian Eastern Fleet by proposing a secret passage to the Dardnells. The Italian Naval authorities stated the spy and the Italian Naval Officers involved are under guard and en-route to Rome. The fleet was unharmed except for a heavy pelting of vegetables and camel dung from the banks of the river during the 16 hour ordeal of backing six capital ships down a narrow river channel.



MACHIAVELLI No Winner Yet! Fall 1518

2003 D
pw10

Ragocetti: The Turks have snuck into the lead, snuffing out the last vestiges of the Venetian army in the process. Pope David is on the run as the Austrians dine sumptuously in the Roman piazzas. Expect the French to recover quickly from their temporary setbacks.

TROOP MOVEMENTS:

AUSTRIA (Wilson, 2d): F GoL S F TS, F Dur-Alb, F Rome-Pat, F Otr S F LA, F LA S A Aqu-Anc, F Cap-Rome, F Cor S F GoL, A Aqu-Anc, F TS S F Rome-Pat;

FRANCE (Scott, 2d): A Mil S A Man-Par, A Man-Par, A Tyr-Aus, (F LS S F Pro), A Como S A Tur-Pav, A Avi H(u), A Gen-For, F Pro S F LS, A Tur-Pav, A Swi-Tyr, (A Mar S F ProInsu).

PAPACY (Anderson, 0d): (F Pisa-LS), A Sie H, (F Ven-UA), A Bol H, A Luc S A Bol, F Pio S F Pisa-LS;

TURKEY (McConnell, 0d): A Trent-Ver, A Ver-Fer, F Rag-Her, A Tre-Pad, F UA C A Pad-Urb, A Ber-Cre, A Dal S F Rag-Her, A Pad-Urb, A Par-Mod, A Aus-Sla;

VENICE (Nichols, 0d): None.

Orders in brackets fail. b = besieged, d = destroyed, imp = impossible, no = not owned, nao = not so ordered, nsu = no such unit, oth = off the board, otm = on the move, R = Rebellion, r-??? = must retreat oth or elsewhere, u = unordered.

Supply Chart: Variable income roll is "2".

AUS (2+36d): BARI MES PAL SAR 1st Tur Cor -sla tun otr Dur NAP sal +Alb +Anc +pat +Rome;

FRA (2+36d): AVI pro SALZ Gen Pav Swi como for MAR Mil -Mod Sav ber -Cre -Pio Man +Aus +par +Tyr;

PAP (0+27d): BOL -pat PER -ROME spo -urb Are Flo aqu cap Pisa Ven -ANC -Fer +Luc +Pio +Sie;

TUR (0+33d): bos her HUN TUN(c) car Cro Dal Rag -Aus carin fri Tre Trent -Alb Pad -Tyr ver +Cre +Fer +Mod +sla +urb;

VEN (0d): -PAD(c) = OUT.

Orders for Spring 1519 are due next time. And Press. Ms Nar craves Press. Game transcript and map are on the website.

EMBASSY BEAT

Austria to GM: I couldn't find "thassalocratic" in my dictionary. Help me here.

Austria to France: I hope you have seen that my supports for the unit I no longer have in LS were simply designed to keep you out. I never made a hostile move toward your shores. Besides, the surfing is great in the LS.

Austria to His Excellency: Your cities on the other hand were a bit too tempting. Besides, there is nothing better than a caprezzi saled in a Roman piazza on a sunny afternoon.

Austria to Turkey: I abandoned my northern homelands when you turned on me. I'm coming for them.

TURK-FRANCE: THE ROAD TO ROME IS PAVED WITH GOOD FRENCH INTENTIONS.

GM-Austria: A "thassalocracy" is a rule by sea-power. You certainly seem to be taking that approach. See <http://www.nipissingu.ca/departement/history/muhiberger/2055/123anc.htm>



Gunboat MACHIAVELLI Florence Invaded! Summer 1454

2004A
pw1Q



JUNTA Budget Fails, Forced! El Presidente killed! Year 1



TROOP MOVEMENTS:

AUSTRIA: (2d) A Carin-Trent, A Sla-Cro, A Tyr S MIL A Mil-Como;
FLORENCE: (6d) A Are-Sie, A Sie-Pio, F LS-Luc;
FRANCE: (2d) A Tur-Salz, A Swt-Tur, F Gol-Cor;
MILAN: (2d) A Man-Mod, A Mil-Como, A Mon-Gen;
NAPLES: (4d) G Bari = F, G Mes = F, F TS S F Pal-CM, (F Pal-CM);
PAPACY: (4d) A Bol-Flo, A Per-Are, A Spo-Urb, (F Anc-LA);
TURKS: (3d) A Rag B1, F IS S F Tun-CM, (F Tun-CM);
VENICE: (9d) A Ver-Carin, A Fri-Car, (F Dal-LA), F Ven-UA;
AUTONOMOUS: Fer, Gen, Man, Mod, Mon, Luc, Pio, Rag(b), Salz, Sav, Sie, Trent, Tur

Orders in brackets fail. b = besieged, d = destroyed, imp = impossible, no = not owned, nao = not so ordered, nau = no such unit, oth = off the board, otm = on the move, r-??? = must retreat oth or elsewhere, u = unordered.

Orders for Fall 1454 are due next time. And Press. Ms Nar craves Press. Game transcript and map are on the website.

EMBASSY BEAT

FRANCE-FLORENCE: Stay out of my territorial waters.

FRANCE-MILAN: I agree to your division.



THE CAST: (and Table order)

Rick Copeland (Martini)
Chuck Hanna (Shades)
Wayne Morrison (Mustache)

Dave Anderson (Hat)
John Butitta (Stickpin)

STATUS:

Shades: El Presidente (1v), Monarchists (3v), 6C
Stickpin: 3rd Brd CO (1v), 7C
Mustache: Minister, 1st Brd CO (2v), The Church (10v), 6C
Martini: 2nd Brd CO (1v), Bankers (7v), 6C
Hat: Air Force CO, Admiral (2v), 7C

1.4: Budget Vote

Round 1: Shades casts 4 votes "Si", Stickpin casts 1 vote "Si", Mustache casts 12 votes "No", Martini casts 8 votes "No", and Hat plays "Conservatives casting 10 votes "Si".

Round 2: Shades abstains, Stickpin abstains, Mustache abstains, Martini plays "Peasants", casting 3 votes "No", and Hat plays "Radicals", casting 3 votes "Si". Budget fails 18-23.

The Minister brings in the troops and forces the passage of the budget. El Presidente gives 1 bill (8) to Martini and Stickpin and two bills to Mustache, Hat and Shades. You get _ MP.

1.5 Locations: Martini and Mustache are at the Bank. Shades & Stickpin are at their Mistress'. Hat is at Home.

1.6 Assassinations: Stickpin plays "Foreign Assassin", pays 1 MP, targets el Presidente at his Mistress' and makes the hit. 28 = _ MP to Stickpin. Shades loses all cards. Mustache declines to assassinate. We pause to elect a new el Presidente.

Due next time nominations and votes for el Presidente, whether you will make a Bank deposit or not (Martini and Mustache only), and if you'll start a Coup. I'll then deal you your two cards while el novo Presidente decides on the Cabinet assignments.

STATUS: The Bank is open and not safe. There is a Coup excuse.

Shades: 08

Stickpin: 3rd Brd CO (1v), 5C, 28

Mustache: Minister, 1st Brd CO (2v), The Church (10v), 5C, 28

Martini: 2nd Brd CO (1v), Bankers (7v), Peasants (3v), 4C, 18

Hat: Air Force CO, Admiral (2v), Conservatives (8v), Radicals (3v), 4C, 28

You have _ MP in hand and 0 MP in the Bank.

Your cards are:



BRITANNIA

"Devon"
Turn XVI



BRITANNIA

"Frisian"
Turn VI



The Cast:

Blue: Kevin Wilson
Purple: Rudy Zodda

Green: Rick Copeland
Red: Peter Boyum

Score: Green 112.5, Red 79.5, Blue 68, Purple 44.5.

Turn XVI

Board

Welsh (1): 2A @ Clywd, Dyfed; Gwent, Gynnedd, Powys; 1A @ Cornwall, Devon.
Brigantes (1): 2A @ Dunedin, Lothian, Mar, Pennines.
Picts (0.5): 3A @ Caithness; 2A @ Skye; 1A @ Alban, Dalriada, Hebrides.
Caledonians (0.5): 2A @ Orkneys.
Norsemen (2): 2A @ Moray.
Dubliners (2.5): 2A @ Cheshire, Galloway; 1A @ Cumbria, Strathclyde.
Danes (0.5): 6A @ March, 3A @ Hwicce; 2A @ Lindsey; 1A @ Avalon.
Norwegians: Harald, 4A @ York; 3A @ North; 2A @ N Mercia; 1A @ Bernicia.
Saxons (1.5): 3A, Harold @ Downlands.
Normans: 1C, 3A, Willy @ Essex; 2A @ Channel, Suffolk; 1C @ S Mercia, 1C, 1A @ Norfolk.

There is no King. Bretwalda cannot be elected in these turbulent times.

Welsh (1): Grow 4.5 pp. Add 1A @ Powys. Hold.

Brigantes (1): Grow 3 pp. Add 1A @ Mar. 2A Mar-Alban, 1A Dunedin-Alban (5,4,1:1Pict r-Skye).

Picts (0.5): Grow 2 pp. 2A Skye-Moray, 2A Caithness-Moray (6,3,3,3:5,4; 6,3,2,4 -2 Norsemen). Norsemen extinct.

Caledonians (0.5): Grow 0.5 pp. ...

Board

Welsh: 2A @ Clywd, Dyfed, Powys; Gwent, Gynnedd; 1A @ Cornwall, Devon.
Brigantes: 3A @ Alban; 2A @ Lothian, Pennines; 1A @ Dunedin, Mar.
Picts: 3A @ Moray; 1A @ Caithness, Dalriada, Hebrides, Skye.
Caledonians (0.5): 2A @ Orkneys.
Dubliners (2.5): 2A @ Cheshire, Galloway; 1A @ Cumbria, Strathclyde.
Danes (0.5): 6A @ March, 3A @ Hwicce; 2A @ Lindsey; 1A @ Avalon.
Norwegians: Harald, 4A @ York; 3A @ North; 2A @ N Mercia; 1A @ Bernicia.
Saxons (1.5): 3A, Harold @ Downlands.
Normans: 1C, 3A, Willy @ Essex; 2A @ Channel, Suffolk; 1C @ S Mercia, 1C, 1A @ Norfolk.

Score: Green 112.5, Red 79.5, Blue 68, Purple 44.5.

Legend: A = infantry army, C = cavalry army, F = fort, L = legion or leader, pp = population point, R = raider, r-??? = retreats to ???, w-??? = withdraws to ???, (*) = in melee, _#_ = attack by/against cav/legion

Current map and transcript can be found on the website.

The Cast: Nations in *italics* are extinct, in parentheses are not yet in play.

A (Hanna): *Romans*, R-Ba, (Norsemen, Norwegians)

B (Anderson): *Welsh*, Jutes, (Normans)

C (Butitta): *Brigantes*, *Caledonians*, (Danes)

D (Boyum): *Picts*, *Irish*, *Angles*

E (Fruch): *Belgae*, *Scots*, *Saxons*, (Dubliners)

Board

R-Ba (A): 2A @ Lindsey, Lothian, March, Pennines.
Welsh (B, 1): 3A @ Downlands; 2A @ Devon, Gwent; 1A @ Clwyd, Cornwall, Gwynedd, Powys.
Brigantes (C, 2): 3A @ Strathclyde; 1A @ Alban, Cumbria, Dalriada, Galloway.
Picts (D, 2): 2A @ Caithness, Mar; 1A @ Moray, Skye;
Caledonians (C, 2): 2A @ Orkneys; 1A @ Hebrides.
Irish (D, 0): 4R, 1A @ Atlantic.
Scots (E, 0): 2A @ Irish.
Jutes (B, 0): 4R, 1A @ Channel.
Saxons (E, 1): Hengist, 8A @ Frisian, 2R @ Channel, 2A @ Sussex, 1A @ Wessex.
Angles (D, 0): 4R @ Frisian, 3A @ North.

Score: A(39), C(23), B(15), E(14.5), D(12)

Turn VI

Picts (2): Grow 2 pp. Add 1A @ Moray. 2A @ Moray-Alban, 1A @ Mar-Alban (5,5,4:1 Brigante r-Dalriada), 1A @ Caithness-Moray.

Caledonians (2): Grow 1 pp. Add 1A @ Orkneys. 3A Orkneys-Caithness (6,6,3:6 -1 Pict, -1 Caledonian).

Irish (0): 2A Atlantic-Chester, 2R, 1A Atlantic-Gwynedd (6,5,4:5 -1 each, 1R w-Atlantic). Score 1 DVP.

Scots (0): 1A Irish-Icelandic-Orkneys, 1A Irish-Icelandic-Hebrides (3:5 -1 Scot).

Jutes (0): ...

Score: A(39), C(23), B(16), E(14.5), D(12)

Board

R-Ba (A): 2A @ Lindsey, Lothian, March, Pennines.
Welsh (B, 1): 3A @ Downlands; 2A @ Devon, Gwent; 1A @ Clwyd, Cornwall, Powys.
Brigantes (C, 2): 3A @ Strathclyde; 2A @ Dalriada; 1A @ Cumbria, Galloway.
Picts (D, 1): 3A @ Alban; 1A @ Mar, Moray, Skye;
Caledonians (C, 0): 2A @ Caithness; 1A @ Hebrides.
Irish (D, 0): 2A @ Chester, 1A @ Gwynedd, 1R @ Atlantic.
Scots (E, 0): 1A @ Orkneys.
Jutes (B, 0): 4R, 1A @ Channel.
Saxons (E, 1): Hengist, 8A @ Frisian, 2R @ Channel, 2A @ Sussex, 1A @ Wessex.
Angles (D, 0): 4R @ Frisian, 3A @ North.

See p6 for Legend. Current map and game transcript can be found on the website.

THE KNIGHTS TALE

CIVIL WAR in PARIS!

Turns 6.7, 7.3



The Cast (in Tiebreak Order)

BARCELONA (Buttitta): \$80, 15C, 5K, 200M, ON-1
 VENICE (Hanna): \$66, 11C, 5K, 175M, ON-1
 GENOA (Copeland): \$76, 16C, 6K, 150M, SV-10
 PARIS (Frueh): \$88, 13C, 6K, 175M, SV-10

Advances
 F.I.N.R.T.V.X
 A.E.I.N.R.T.V
 A.E.F.I.N.R.S.V.W
 A.B.E.F.I.J.N.O.R.S.V.W

There is a surplus of Timber and a shortage of Cloth.

6.7: PURCHASE PHASE:

V bids 10t. G bids 19t. B&P bid 22t.

7.3: CARD PLAY PHASE:

V (10t) plays "Enlightened Ruler" and "Civil War" against P (PAR reduced to 1T, +1 ML, lose \$49 or 11t goes last in Expansion Phase).

G (19t) plays "Religious Strife" (G,P +2 ML, B +1 ML), "Timber" (G +\$12, surplus removed) and "Timber" (G +\$27, V +\$3).

B (22t) plays "Ivory/Gold" as Ivory (B +\$40, G +\$10) and "Spice" (B +\$36, P,V +\$9).

P (22t) plays "Pirates/Vikings" @ Con (-BC, +1PT) and Chi (-VC, +1VT).

The Cast (in Turn 7 Order)

VENICE (Hanna): \$68, 10C, 3K, 175M, ON-1, 10t
 GENOA (Copeland): \$106, 16C, 3K, 200M, SV-10, 19t
 BARCELONA (Buttitta): \$134, 14C, 3K, 250M, ON-1, 22t
 PARIS (Frueh): \$66, 12C, 5K, 300M, SV-10, 22t

Advances
 A.E.I.N.R.T.V
 A.E.F.I.N.R.S.V.W
 F.I.N.R.T.V.X
 A.B.E.F.I.J.N.O.R.S.V.W

THE BOARD:

V: C @ Bud Cre Cyp Dub Kie Mon Smy StM VEN Vie; 1T @ Chi Gal, Kaf.
 B: C @ Alex Alg Ang, Basq BAR Cai Lie Ser Sev Sue Tan Tre Tol Waf; 1T @ Con Kam Ora Pal.
 G: C @ Bel Bor Fex Gen Gra Lyo Mar Nap Pot Rom Salo Sic Tri Tun Val Var.
 P: C @ Acr Alep Basl Bru Col Dj Erz Flo Mil Nur Pra Str; 1T @ Bre Jer Lev PAR Salz StG Tar

Due next time are orders for Purchase, Expansion, and Card Buy phases. Your cards are:

LEGEND: c = white circle, C = colored circle, K = cards, M = misery, ML = misery level, t = white token, T = colored token. See website for transcript and map.

Enlightenment VIII

March 18th - 20nd, 2005

Hunt Valley Inn

Hunt Valley, MD

A four-round swiss format of Age of Renaissance using a special best three-out-of-four scoring system that encourages fast play and keeps most players in contention throughout.



KREMLIN

Aparatschik Acquitted!

Turns 2.3-2.5



CAST:

Paul Bartlett: Bolsheviks Against Russian Treason (BART), 1 card
 Mike Scott: The California Connection (TCC), 0 cards
 Dave Anderson: Decaying Licentious Antequarians (DLA), 3 cards
 Rudy Zozda: Red Zealots (RZ), 3 cards
 John Buttitta: Proleteriat Worker's against Imperialism (PWI), 3 cards
 Cary Nichols: Re-Education Development Society (REDS), 3 cards

POLITBURO:

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Party Chief: | Aparatschik (A) | 83+0? | TCC(3) [ON TRIAL] |
| KGB Head: | Doberman (L) | 71 | RZ(8), BART(8), PWI(5) |
| Foreign Minister: | Krakembeds (E) | 73w | PWK(3) |
| Defense Minister: | Manjak (P) | 65 | BART(1) |
| Ideology Chief: | Satin (O) | 63s++ | REDS(4) |
| Industry Minister: | Strychnin (T) | 60w+ | |
| Economy Minister: | Patina (S) | 59? | REDS(1) |
| Sport Minister: | Talksalott (J) | 67 | |
| Candidates: BDFMV | | People: GIKN(DLA 2)ORUWY(REDS 1)Z(DLA 1) | |
| The Wall: HX | | Siberia: C | |

TURN 2

2.3 SPY INVESTIGATION PHASE: Defense Minister Manjak brings Party Chief Aparatschik to trial (in abetential). DLA reveals 2 IP on "N", then plays Card #48 to auction the 2 IP from "N" to the highest bidder; no takers. TCC reveals 1 IP on J and has him vote "Not Guilty"; REDS has "O" & "S" vote "Innocent"; PWI has "E" votes "Guilty"; RZ has "L" vote "Guilty". Aparatschik is cleared; Manjak ages 3 SP to 68. Manjak opens investigations on "E", "J" and "O" aging 3 SP to 71.

2.4 HEALTH PHASE:

Party Chief Aparatschik drinks "15" glasses of orange juice a day and returns to Health!
 KGB Head Doberman walks "19" flights of stairs daily, remains healthy.
 Foreign Minister Krakembeds sleeps through a "19" hr flight, remains healthy.
 Defense Minister Manjak runs 15 km a week, remains healthy.
 Ideology Chief Satin gives a "16" page speech, remains ill (++).
 Industry Minister Strychnin catches "1" oz of lead, is dead.
 Economy Minister Patina polkas for "7" hours, remains healthy.
 Sport Minister Talksalott smokes "6" packs of cigarettes a day, grows sick "+".

2.5 FUNERAL COMMISSION PHASE: n/a

Due next time: Orders for Turn 2 Replacement, Rehab and Parade Phases and Turn 3 Cure Phase. Barring card play, Aparatschik must leave the San and Satin may enter.

POLITBURO:

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Party Chief: | Aparatschik (A) | 830 | TCC(3) |
| KGB Head: | Doberman (L) | 71 | RZ(8), BART(8), PWI(5) |
| Foreign Minister: | Krakembeds (E) | 73w? | PWK(3) |
| Defense Minister: | Manjak (P) | 71 | BART(1) |
| Ideology Chief: | Satin (O) | 63s++? | REDS(4) |
| Industry Minister: | <VACANT> | | |
| Economy Minister: | Patina (S) | 59? | REDS(1) |
| Sport Minister: | Talksalott (J) | 677+ | TCC(1) |
| Candidates: BDFMV | | People: GIKN(DLA 2)ORUWY(REDS 1)Z(DLA 1) | |
| The Wall: HTX | | Siberia: C | |

LEGEND: s = strong, w = weak, + = sick, ++ = ill, 0 = Cure, ? = under investigation, _ = position is vacant



FRUEH IS MISSING

OR 4a at Last!

FIM

PLAYER STATUS: (*Denotes Presidency)

Bailey: \$6, SVNRR, D&H, 3 C&O, 3 B&O <Priority>

Hanna: \$23, 4 NYNH&H*, 5 B&O* <Priority>

Bolduc: \$48, B&Opc, 3 C&O*, 4 CP*, 1 NYNH&H

Copeland: \$32, 2 C&O, 5 PR*, 1 CP

Zicake: \$17, 6 B&M*, 1 CP

CORPORATE STATUS:

| Corp | Pres | Price | Par | IO | Pool | Cash | Trains | Tokens |
|--------|------|-------|-----|----|------|--------|--------|-------------------|
| B&M | PZ | A100 | 100 | 4 | 0 | \$1000 | -- | (E23), 1 |
| B&O | CH | E71a | 100 | 2 | 0 | \$1000 | -- | (I15), 2 |
| PRR | RC | E71b | 100 | 3 | 2 | \$1000 | -- | (H12), 3 |
| NYNH&H | CH | G69 | 90 | 3 | 2 | \$80 | 2223 | G19, 1, C&A |
| C&O | PB | H68a | -- | 0 | 2 | \$50 | 233 | F6, 2, M&H |
| CP | PB | H68b | 71 | 1 | 3 | \$170 | 223 | A19, B16, 2, C&SL |

OR 4a

Private companies pay \$20 to Bailey, \$10 to CanPac, \$20 to C&O, \$25 to NYNH&H, and \$30 to Bolduc.

B&M: Play initial token in E23. Upgrades F22 to 15(w), plays token in F22 (-\$40), pays no dividends (stock to A90), buys one 3-train (-\$180) and one 4-train (-\$300, 2-trains obsolete).

B&O: Play initial token in I15. Lays tile #7 in I17(w) (-\$80), pays no dividends (stock to E67a), buys two 4-trains (-\$600); B&Opc closes.

PRR: Play initial token in H12. Lay tile #57 in hex H10(w), place token in H10 (-\$40), pays no dividends (stock to E67b) buys one 4-train (-\$300).

NYNH&H: Lay tile #54 in G19(sw) (-\$80), run G19-F20-F22 (\$100), pay dividends (CH +\$40, NYNH&H +\$20, PB +\$10), stock to G70, buys 4-train from B&O for \$1.

C&O: Lay #8 in H8(nw). Run F2-F6 (\$70) & F6-G7-H10 (\$60). Withhold. Price slips to H67.

CP: Lay #14 in B16(nel). Run C15-B16-A19 (\$80). Pay dividends (PB +\$32, CPR +\$24, RC & PZ +\$8). Price rises to G69. Buy 3-train from C&O for \$1.

PLAYER STATUS

Bailey: \$26, SVNRR, D&H, 3 C&O, 3 B&O

Hanna: \$63, 4 NYNH&H*, 5 B&O* <Priority>

Bolduc: \$120, 3 C&O*, 4 CP*, 1 NYNH&H

Copeland: \$30, 2 C&O, 5 PR*, 1 CP

Zicake: \$26, 6 B&M*, 1 CP

CORPORATE STATUS

| Corp | Pres | Price | Par | IO | Pool | Cash | Trains | Tokens |
|--------|------|-------|-----|----|------|------|--------|-------------------|
| B&M | PZ | A90 | 100 | 4 | 0 | 480 | 34 | E23, F22 |
| B&O | CH | E67a | 100 | 2 | 0 | 321 | 4 | I15, 2 |
| PA | RC | E67b | 100 | 3 | 2 | 660 | 4 | H12, H10, 2 |
| NYNH&H | CH | G70 | 90 | 3 | 2 | 44 | 34 | G19, 1, C&A |
| CP | PB | G69 | 71 | 1 | 3 | 203 | 33 | A19, B16, 2, C&SL |
| C&O | PB | H67 | -- | 0 | 2 | 211 | 3 | F6, 2, M&H |

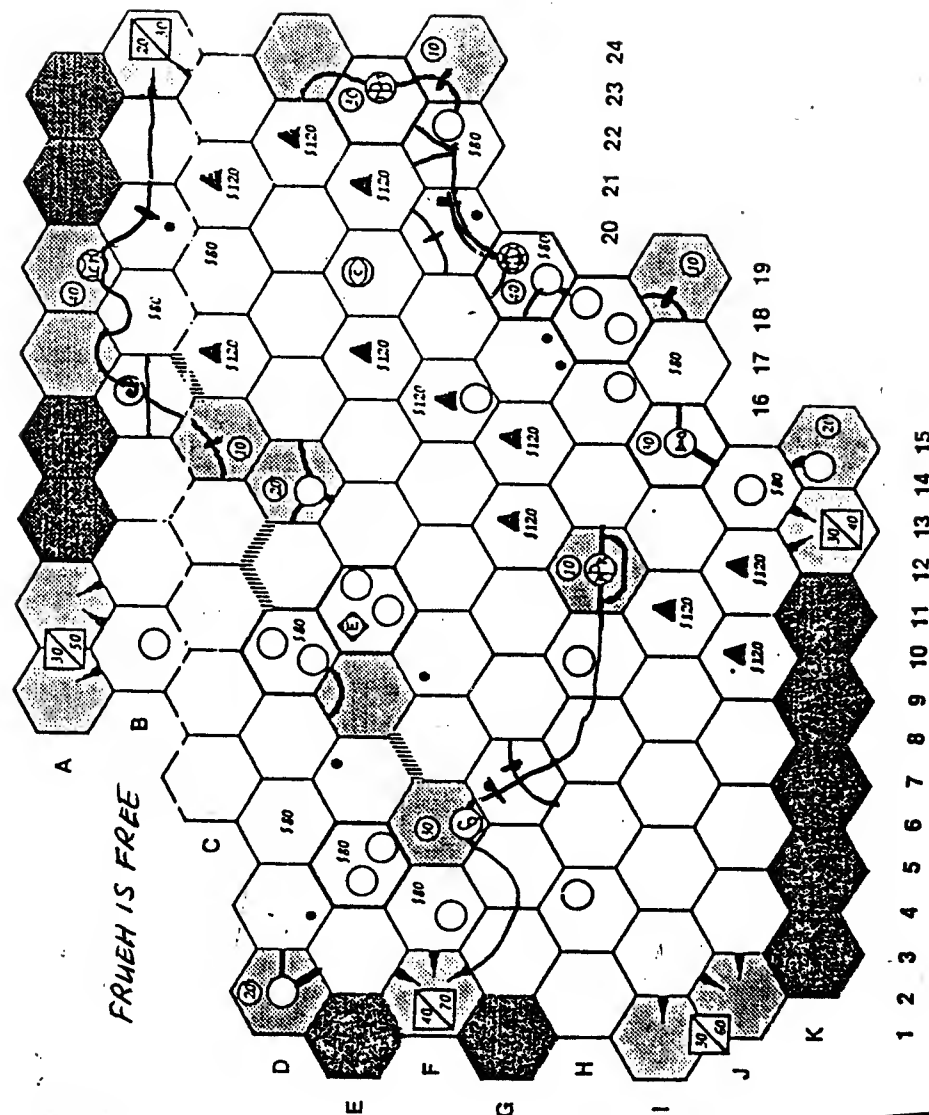
The Bank has \$9,816.

AVAILABLE TRAINS: 555 66 DDDDDD

AVAILABLE TILES:

Yellow: #3(2), #4(2), #7(2), #8(5), #9(6), #55(1), #56(1), #57(3), #58(1)

Green: #14(2), #15(1), #16(1), #18(1), #19(1), #20(1), #23(3), #24(3), #25(1), #26(1), #27(1), #28(1), #29(1), #53(2), #59(2)





PUERTO RICO

We Start



CAST:

Paul Barrett: Gov, Indigo(), 4d, 0 VP
John Buttitta: Indigo(), 4d, 0 VP
Ron Fisher: Indigo(), 4d, 0 VP
Tom Butcher: Corn(), 4d, 0 VP
Brad Martin: Corn(), 4d, 0 VP

AVAILABLE PLANTATIONS: Quarry(x8), Sugar(x2), Coffee(x2), Corn, Tobacco

COLONY SHIP: 5 colonists.

SHIPS: 6-ship, 7-ship, 8-ship

STOCK: 95 colonists, 122 VP, 9 coffee, 9 tobacco, 10 corn, 11 sugar, 11 indigo

TURN 1:

Governor Barrett chooses *Settler* and takes a Quarry. Buttitta takes Corn, Fisher takes Sugar, Butcher takes Sugar, and Martin takes Tobacco. Two Coffee go to discard.

Buttitta chooses *Builder* and builds a Small Market (-1+1d). Fisher builds a Hospice (-4d). Butcher builds Small Sugar Mill. Martin builds a Small Warehouse (-3d). Barrett builds ...

STATUS:

Paul Barrett: Gov, Settler, Indigo(), Quarry(), 4d, 0 VP
John Buttitta: Builder, Sm Market(), Indigo(), Corn(), 4d, 0 VP
Ron Fisher: Hospice(), Indigo(), Sugar(), 0d, 0 VP
Tom Butcher: Sm Sugar(), Corn(), Sugar(), 4d, 0 VP
Brad Martin: Sm Warehouse, Corn(), Tobacco(), 4d, 0 VP

AVAILABLE ROLES: Mayor, Trader, Captain, Prospector(x2), Producer

AVAILABLE BUILDINGS: All

AVAILABLE PLANTATIONS: Quarry(x7), Coffee, Tobacco(x2), Indigo(x2), Sugar

COLONY SHIP: 5 colonists.

TRADING HOUSE: Empty.

SHIPS: 6-ship, 7-ship, 8-ship

STOCK: 95 colonists, 122 VP, 9 coffee, 9 tobacco, 10 corn, 11 sugar, 11 indigo

Transcript and map are on the website.

9th Annual Chattanooga Rail Gaming Challenge

Country Suites, I-75 at exit 5 (Shallowford Rd.)

Chattanooga, TN

January 14-16, 2005

Entry Fee is only \$25 in advance, \$30 at the event



Come to the friendliest, longest running rail gaming convention in the southeast! This convention has been described as "Rail Gamer Heaven" and why not? We have three days of tournament gaming (four including informal Thursday gaming), more prizes than ever, one low entry fee with no separate event fees and a great venue with more convenience including a free airport shuttle. Call the hotel directly at 423/899-2300 and ask for the Chattanooga Rail Gaming Challenge discounted rate. Chattanooga will host a large cheerleading competition this weekend and many hotels are expected to sell out early. I urge you to reserve a room now, even if you must change it later. Other lodging and restaurant options are nearby within walking distance. Refer to my web page for more details. Gamers of all skill levels are welcome. See who will claim the coveted (?) "It wasn't my fault award" for the first player bankruptcy! We will have a kick off event for the early birds on Thursday night. One-day admissions are available and once again, all admission charges are waived for players from outside the US! We expect strong players from Europe again in 2005! The 18xx Grand Prix returns for fans of the 18xx series and a separate tournament for all other rail games will be conducted using the TGA's Puffing Billy scoring format. An open gaming area will be available all weekend. Meet some new friends and play some great games! For more details see my web page below or email me for the latest details, we'd love to have you!

Mark Derrick/M&M Promotions

8601 Glenaire Drive

Chattanooga, TN 37416-1546

Email to: derrick@chattanooga.net

Telephone: 423-344-0638 (before 10:00 p.m. EST, please)

For Info on the convention, see <http://home.chattanooga.net/~derrick/gaming.htm>

Info on our host hotel can be found at <http://www.countryinns.com>



TITAN Combat! Turn 21



TURN 21

THE BOARD:

Brown (Frueh), 8-4, 272 VP, dr=5: Spider 3-8; Chest 131-126; Hourglass 6-13; Bearpaw 10-15; Bell 124 holds (Combat).
Blue (York), 8-4, 60 VP, dr=1. Batman 30 holds, Anchor 113-12, spawn Half Moon, Twister 109-108, Padlock 27-500.
Red (Bargender), 8-4, 240 VP, dr=5: Bleeding Heart 126-121 (stopped at 124--Combat).

MUSTERED: Cyclops, Guardian, Lion, Ranger.

COMBAT: Red Bleeding Heart attacks Brown Bell @ Plains 124.

FORCE POOL: Archangels (6), Angels (16), Behemoths (14), Centaurs (3), Colossi (10), Cyclopes (0), Dragons (18), Gargoyles (7), Giants (18), Griffons (18), Guardians (4), Hydrae (10), Lions (20), Minotaurs (17), Ogres (2), Rangers (20), Serpents (10), Trolls (13), Unicorns (12), Warbears (20), Warlocks (5), Wyverns (17).

DEAD POOL: Behemoth, Centaur(21), Cyclops(19), Gargoyles(10), Gorgon(4), Lion(5), Ogre(11), Ranger(4), Titan(3), Troll(1).

Your Turn 22 die roll is: _____. Let's see if we can do two moves or more moves ere next issue.

Current masterboard and game transcript are on the website.

Your Legions are:

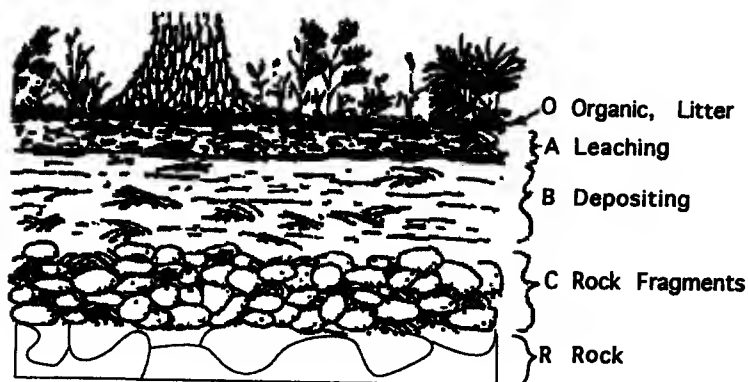


Figure 19.2 Cross-section of layers in soil.



MAHARAJA Turn 1 Begins PANDYAS & CHOLAS FLEE!



NOTE: Chuck Hanna has decided not to play this time, so we have four.

THE CAST:

Rudy Zodda: Green
Paul Barrett: Yellow

Dave Anderson: Purple
Wayne Morrison: Blue

Turn 1

BOARD:

Pandya: 1A @ Malwa, Khandesh.

Cholas: 1A @ Bundelkhand, Gondwana

Maurya: 6A @ Afghanistan, C Asia

Harrappans: 1A @ Baluchistan, Delhi, Gandhara, Gujarat, Kashmir, Lahore, Punjab, Rajputana, Sind

Pandya: Grow 1.5 pp. 1A Khandesh-Berar, 1A Malwa-Khandesh.

Cholas: Grow 1.5 pp. 1A Bundelkhand-Gondwana, 1A Gondwana-Andhra.

Maurya: 1st Wave: 2A Afghanistan-Baluchistan (6,3:4 -1 Harra), 2A Afghanistan-Punjab (6,5:3 - Harra), 2A Afghanistan-Delhi (4,3:2 *), 2A C Asia-Gandhara (5,1:5 -1 each), 2A C Asia-Kashmir (5,4:2 - Harra), 2A C Asia-Ladakh. 2nd Wave:
* Harrappan may retreat to Rajputana.

Scor: Blue 2, Green 0, Purple 0, Yellow 0.

BOARD:

Pandya (1.5): 1A @ Berar, Khandesh.

Cholas (1.5): 1A @ Andhra, Gondwana.

Maurya: 2A @ Baluchistan, Delhi*, Kashmir, Ladakh, Punjab; 1A @ Gandhara.

Harrappans: 1A @ Delhi*, Gujarat, Lahore, Rajputana, Sind.

Due next, Harrappan's retreat/fight option and Mauryan's 2nd wave. Any Harrappan survivors then move.

Game transcript posted on the website. I'm working on a map.

GAME OPENINGS ELSEWHERE

BLUT UND EISEN (Tom Butcher, 2129 Pinebrook Trail, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44223-3303): Openings in 1829 (S), 1870, and 1826. Sub fee: 90¢ to \$1.20 an issue depending on size. Last issue received: #98, Nov 2004.

CHEESECAKE (Andy Lischett, 2402 Ridgeland Ave, Berwick, IL 60402): Openings in three DIPLOMACY games. No game fee. Last issue received: #252, 22 Nov 04.

GRAUSTARK (John Boardman, 234 East 19th St, Brooklyn, NY 11226-5302): Opening in one DIPLOMACY game. Game fee/sub \$35. Last issue received: #759, 13 Nov 04.

S.O.B. (Chris Hasler, 2000 S Armour Ct, La Habra, CA 90631; <http://home.adelphia.net/~chasler>): Openings in GUNSLINGER and NEWE WORLD. Sub fee: \$1.50/issue. Last issue: #114, November 2004

SoC

Slow Going!

Turns 5.5-6.1

Ernst

The Cast: R Fisher (F) P Zieske (Z) M Scott (S) K Wilson (W) R Copeland (C)

Turns 5.3-5.5:

5.5 (C): Roll 6. C gets 1 lumber from c3; C gets 2 and F&S get one lumber from e4. Z gets 1 wool from h2. No trades. Build roads at c2/d3 and one at c2/d2 (-2bl). SEP: W builds a road f5/g5 (-bl).

6.1 (F): Roll 5. F gets 2 lumber from b3; Z gets 2 grain and F 1 grain from e3; W gets 2 grain and S 1 grain from f5. Trades 3 lumber for 1 wool. SEP: ...

COMMODITY STATUS

| Player | brick | grain | lumber | ore | wool | Knights | cards | VP | Other |
|--------|-------|-------|--------|-----|------|---------|-------|----|-------|
| F | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | |
| Z | 0 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 3 | |
| S | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | |
| W | 0 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | |
| C | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | |

Development: (Robber @ e4).

F: Settlements: c3/e4/f3, b3/c3/c4, a2/b2/b3

Roads: b3/c3, e3/e4, b2/b3, e3/f3, b3/c4, e2/2, b3/b4

Z: Settlements: g3/h2/h3

Cities: d2/d3/e3

Roads: d2/d3, g3/h2, c2/d3

S: Settlements: d6/e6/e7, e4/e5/f4, e5/e6/f5

Roads: e6/e7, e5/f4, e5/f5, f4/f5

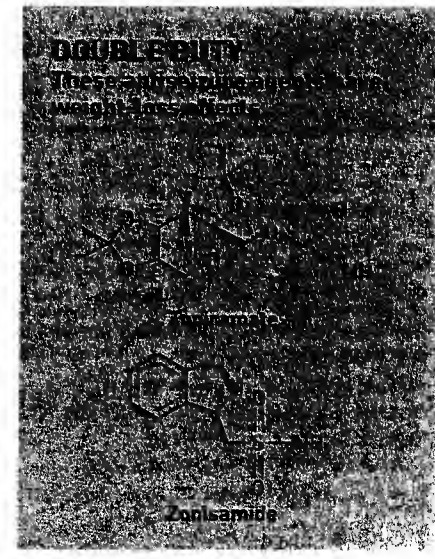
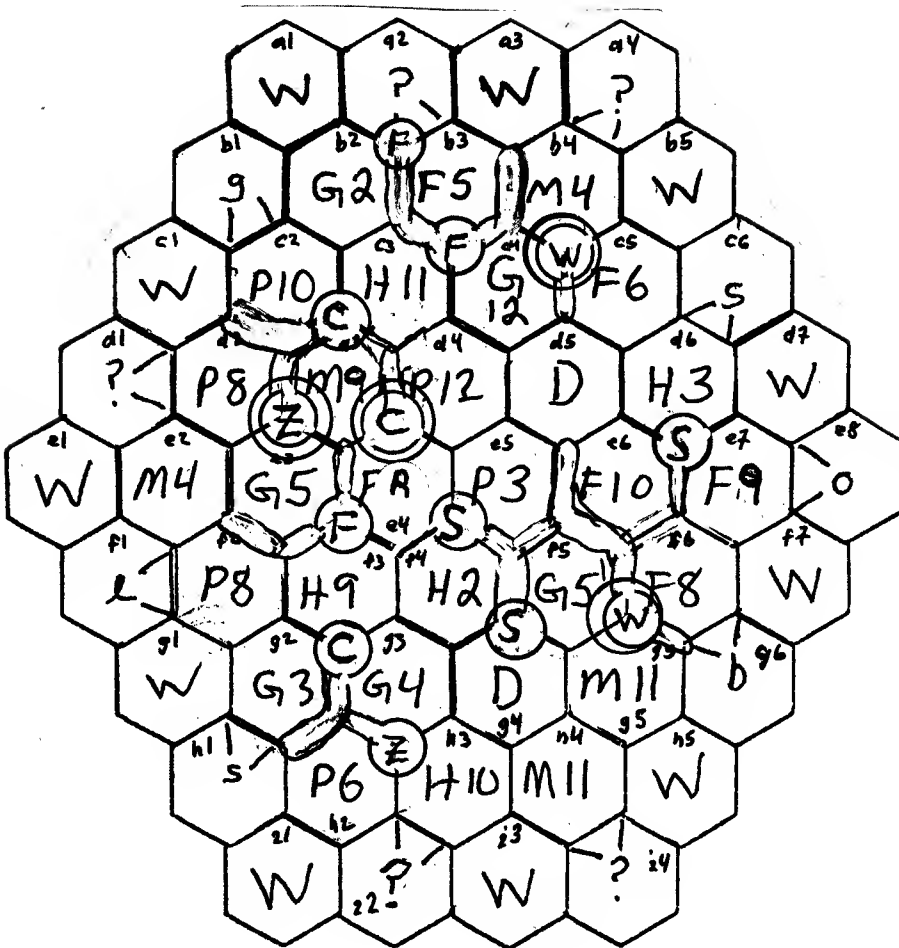
W: Cities: b4/c4/c5, f5/f6/g5

Roads: c4/c5, f5/f6, e6/f5, e5/e6, f6/g5

C: Settlements: f3/g2/g3, c2/c3/d3

Cities: d3/d4/e4

Roads: d3/d4, g2/g3, g2/h2, c3/d3, c2/d3, c2/d2



ON DECK



1830: Fruch, Zodda, Zieske
 1835: Hanna, Zieske
 1850: Hanna, Fruch, Zieske
 1870: Zieske, Hanna, Fruch
BLACKBEARD: Zodda, A Bargender, Barrett
BRITANNIA: Zieske
COLONIAL DIPLOMACY: Copeland, Nichols, Anderson, Boyum; need 3 more.
DIPLOMACY: Boyum, Fryling, Nichols confirmed; Curtis iffy.
GUNSLINGER: Scott, Fowble, R Fisher; need 4 more
HISTORY OF THE WORLD, Pt 2: Zieske, Morrison, Anderson, Wilson need 1 to 2 more.
KINGMAKER: Deb Anderson, R Fisher, Shacklett, Scott
MACHIAVELLI (Gunboat): Have 3.
MAGIC REALM: Butitta, Deb A
MAHARAJA: Hanna, Zodda, Anderson, Barrett, Morrison
MERCHANT OF VENUS: R Fisher, Deb A
PUERTO RICO: R Fisher, Butitta, Barrett
RUSSIAN CIVIL WAR: Scott
SILVERTON: Zieske, Deb A
WIZARD'S QUEST: A Bargender, R Fisher, Deb A

OTHER POSSIBILITIES: 1829 (N OR S), AFTER THE HOLOCAUST (*GM Fowble), GODSFIRE, KAMAKURA, MONSTERS RAVAGE AMERICA, PLANET MINERS, SAMARAI.
 * Offered by guest GM, when space is available.

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 DEADLINE FOR MOST GAMES IS 1800 CENTRAL TIME 7 Jan 05

The Bottom Line

This is **BORIS THE SPIDER**, a 'zine dedicated to the play of multiplayer games. BORIS is usually published following the first Friday of the month by Paul & Meg Bolduc, 203 Devon Ct, Ft Walton Beach, FL 32547-3110 and currently has a subscription price of \$10.50 for 12 issues in hardcopy (\$13.25 in Canada, and \$16 overseas) or a token \$1 by e-mail (waived if overseas). A hardcopy sub will also include an e-mail sub. Make checks payable to "Paul Bolduc". BORIS can be reached at (850) 863-9081, or prbolduc@aol.com. If phoning, expect to be greeted by an answering machine. If we're here, not engaged in an epic computer battle or enthralled in baseball, hockey, or college football, and recognize your voice, you may get to talk to a real human, so don't hang up upon hearing our recorded message (it changes every power outage). Visit the BORIS Website at:

<http://hometown.aol.com/prbolduc/boris/borishome.htm>



Source of the Nile

Turn 31



The Cast:

Dan Farrow (dropped)
 Andrew York

Jason Bargender
 Don Chinnery

Ron Fisher (dropped?)
 D&D Anderson

Published: DD12 (lake, +79 acres), DD11 (lake, +75 acres), CC11 (lake, +88 acres), AA13 (veldt, river from 1 and 4 to 2), Z14 (veldt, river from 5 to 4, cataract, waterfall is 350 feet), Z13 (veldt, river from 1 to 2) and tribe L11 (the Mphahlele) in Z13. G24 (jungle, river from 3 to 6), H24 (swamp), G22 (mountain, river begins and extends to 4), H21 (desert, river from 1 to 3, oasis), I22 (veldt, river from 6 to 3), J19 (swamp), J18 (veldt), K18 (veldt), M10 (the Kimbundu) in G22, L15 (the Bagaza) in J19, M36 (the Ruanda) in J18, M37 (the Maleonde) in I22. P2 (swamp), O4 (lake, +21 acres), N4 (lake, +33 acres), M1 (the Ankrin) in P2, FF8 (mountain, river from 6 to 5, cataract), FF7 (jungle/swamp), EE8 (jungle/swamp), EE9 (mountain, river from 3 to 1, 65 foot waterfall), DD8 (jungle/swamp), GG5 (veldt, river to 1), FF5 (veldt, river from 4 to 1), EE6 (desert, river from 4 to 1), DD6 (veldt, river from 4 to 2, 85 ft waterfall), DD7 (jungle/swamp), M24 (the Gadami) in FF7, and S2 (the Ngubane) in GG5.

Press: Dear Boris: This is getting rather frustrating lakes; everywhere and not a ferry in sight and on top of that. Engintine nearly lost her head literally....

We were fishing at our newest lake discovery when these man eating cannibals attacked us, but fortunately for Engintine, she is a woman. Engintine was giving a good shot to the right chin and karate chopping with her left. I think they mistook her for a man. She is woman's man and so they took a swipe at her with their machetes, missed her clean though. I am grateful. The askarals frightened the rest off. I was having tea at the time and couldn't be trifled with. Send word when you can on that American sport baseball on who this Ruth chap is and why he is going to the Yankees. I thought he was a Yank already???? Very confusing.

Yours, Emelious.

Positions still available for fearless explorers. Contact Alan Bargender if interested.

STELLAR CONQUEST

William T. Riker: Due are Turn 42 combat to movement orders for Turn 43-44.

Kurzon Dax: Orders for Production 12 and movement to Turns 13-16 are due soonest.